enabling graphical and textual materials to be displayed on displays **450** and **451**. In this particular embodiment of the present invention, displays **450** and **451** act individually as pages of a book that are controlled by electronics **430**. Pagination or the turning of pages is accomplished by the plurality of function keys **417** located along a periphery of either hollow body **403** or hollow body **408**. It should be understood and as previously described hereinabove, the plurality of function keys **417** and displays **450** and **451** are operably connected to electronics or processing center **430**, thus enabling the user to operate electronic book **401**.

Displays **450** and **451** are made using any suitable display technology, such as liquid crystal display (LCD), field emission devices (FED), light emitting diodes (LED), or the like.

In function and by way of example, with the central processing unit or electronics **430** containing a novel or other textual or graphical materials, a first page is displayed on display **450** and a second page is displayed on display **451**. The user reads the first page on a **450** and subsequently reads the second page on **451**. At the completion of reading the second page display on **451** the user paginates by pressing one of the plurality of function keys **417** to move textual or graphical material to a third and fourth page which is displayed on displays **450** and **451**, respectively. Thus, the user is enabled to read and page through material, such as a book or novel, in a normal and simplistic manner. Use of electronic book **401** enables the user to read or look through textual or graphical material in an easier and more efficient manner. Further, the user does not have to use a scrolling type method in order to either paginate forward or backward, thus enabling the user to be more comfortable with the textual or graphical material.

FIG. **5** illustrates a block diagram **501** of functional relationship between a variety of elements associated with electronic book **101** as shown in FIGS. **1–4**. Generally, electronics or central processing unit (CPU) **560** controls peripheral accessories and interconnections by well-known methods in the art. Associated with CPU **560** are circuitry/software **561** for defining custom functions found in a menu driven central processing unit **560** that is capable of being somewhat modified to suit an individual user, thus allowing customization of some of the peripheral accessories and form of displays visualized in electronic books **101**, **301**, and **401**.

Power unit **562** is connected to central processing unit **560**, thus providing power for essential functions of central processing unit **560**. It should be understood that any suitable power source is used for power unit **562**, such as an AC power source, a battery source, or the like.

As shown in FIG. **5**, MPU **560** is networked so that data or information can be downloaded or uploaded between a network and microprocessor **560**. Networking of the MPU **560** is achieved by a variety of methods such as direct electrical connection utilizing some of the plurality of input/output connectors **122** (shown in FIG. **1**), a wireless link **580** having a radio receiver and a radio transmitter for paging and cellar communications, or the like. Functional switches or controls **564** are connected to circuitry/software **561** to enable utilization of functional systems defined by the software, firmware, and MPU **560**. Generally, functional switches or controls **564** are activated by a variety of mechanisms, such as pressing one of the plurality of function buttons or keys **117**, and **417** shown in FIGS. **1** and **4**, respectively. Alternatively, functions or controls **564** may be menu driven with a cursor or stylus on a page of either the plurality of page displays **116** or displays **450**, **451**.

Input interface **566** is coupled to MPU **560**, thus allowing input of data into MPU **560**. By way of example, input **566** can be a variety of different structures, such as a floppy disk drive, a CD ROM, a hard disk, or the like. By enabling input interface **566** to be interactive with MPU **560**, continual updates of information is capable of being exchanged between input interface **566** and MPU **560** so that the user can easily and efficiently utilize the data inputted through input interface **566**.

Audio input/output **567** is coupled to circuitry/software **561** so that audio information or data are inputted into circuitry/software **561** and ultimately utilized and processed by MPU **560**. Audio input/output **567** enables MPU to be voice operated, thus enabling voice commands to be issued to MPU **560**. Further, since audio input is coupled to MPU **560**, audio input/output **567** enables editorial remarks to be overlaid onto selected data or information as desired. Additionally, audio input/output allows the user to listen to information entered into MPU **560**. For example, digital or analog signals comprising a movie are entered into the MPU **560**, thus enabling display **572** and audio output of audio input/out **567** to be used as a multimedia display.

Pen based input **568** is coupled to circuitry/software **561** for inputting messages by a cursor or in handwriting.

Pagination control **571** is coupled to circuitry/software **561** which is further coupled to MPU **560**, thus enabling proper sequencing of pages that are to be displayed in display **572**. Pagination control **571** is controlled by any suitable means, such as pressing an individual button of the plurality of buttons **117**, **417**, actuating electromechanical coupling device **238**, voice actuation, or the like. These various methods control and select the proper image for display **572** to have, thus enabling the user to read the selected material that is imaged on display **572**.

By now it should be appreciated that a novel electronic book has been described. The electronic book allows for a more convenient and efficient electronic communication device to be made. The electronic book enables a mixed media format to be displayed so that the user can not only have written textual/graphical material, but also audio material may be used as well. Further, the electronic book enables the user to utilize electronic medium material in the form of a standard book. Moreover, the electronic book provides a platform that is easily interacted with and that can be modified by the input means.

We claim:

1. An electronic book comprising:

a multiple piece body including a first hollow body having a surface and an edge surface, a second hollow body having a first edge surface and a second edge surface, and a third hollow body having a surface and an edge surface, the edge surface of the first hollow body being hingeably attached to the first edge surface of the second hollow body and the edge surface of the third hollow body being hingeably attached to the second edge surface of the second hollow body;

a computer located in the multiple piece body including a processor for manipulating data, memory for data storage, an input for entering data, and an output for removing data;

a plurality of page displays operably coupled to the output of the computer for displaying data from the computer and attached to the multiple piece body such that closing the surface of the first hollow body onto the surface of the third hollow body protects the plurality of page displays; and